

Rosy

NSC BRIEFING ~~SECRET~~ 13 January 1955

SITUATION IN IRAN

- I. Political situation generally stable;
nevertheless,
 - II. Shah may appoint new prime minister in spring.
 - A. Shah keeping tight grip on government even during US trip. Distrusts Zahedi, often saying would like to remove him.
 - B. Zahedi has not won popular support due failure to push reforms; widespread corruption in his government.
- III. Shah's next premier possibly Manuchehr Eqqbal
 - A. Senator Eqqbal just "elected" chancellor of Tehran University--result of Shah's direct intervention.
 - B. Eqqbal can thus catch public eye by anti-Communist campaign at Tudeh-infested university.
- IV. Under Eqqbal or any Shah-dominated prime minister, Iran would continue pro-West.

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